



County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

April 14, 2016

The Honorable Ben Hueso
Chair, Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee
California State Senate
State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95818

Re: SB 1212 – (Hueso) –As Amended on April 12, 2016 - **SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Hueso:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 1212, legislation that would expand 2-1-1 services into those counties in California where they are lacking 2-1-1 information and referral networks and to support a comprehensive statewide database to connect callers to information and referrals.

2-1-1 has played an important role in the County of San Bernardino. During the 2007 Slide and Grass fires, where more than 40,000 people were evacuated, 2-1-1 answered fire-related calls over a 10 day period, connecting callers with mental health counselors, shelters, food resources, information on school and road closures.

The 2-1-1 system provides easy access to critical information and connection when people are displaced during a disaster. SB 1212 would not only expand essential referral services needed during times of crisis or natural disasters, it would also close the gaps in telephone service through a universally available telephone system available to all California residents. This type of service is critical to a county the size of San Bernardino that encompasses over 20,000 square miles of urban and rural communities.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports SB 1212. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Ramos", written over a white rectangular background.

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: Honorable Members and Consultants, Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
Vice Chairman, First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

JAMES RAMOS
Chairman, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Fourth District

JOSIE GONZALES
Fifth District

GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer